

Message Text

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66

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCSE-00 L-03 SS-15 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

AS-01 SCA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 PA-02

PRS-01 USIE-00 /046 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:NC:JSSHOLES

APPROVED BY ARA:NC - MR. JOHNSON

SCA:SCS - MR. WACH (PHONE)

ARA:PAF - MR. JOHNSON (PHONE)

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O 172114Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 271891

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, VE

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF IPS CORRESPONDENTS

1. ON NOVEMBER 17 MITCHELL HIRSCH OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS SERVICE IN NEW YORK PHONED ARA:NC TO REPORT THAT THREE IPS CORRESPONDENTS WERE ARRESTED BY DISIP IN CARACAS ON NOVEMBER 16. THEY ARE BEING HELD INCOMMUNICADO AND NO REASON WAS GIVEN FOR THEIR ARREST. THE THREE WERE SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN RELEASED TODAY, BUT THEY WERE NOT. MR. HIRSCH HOLDS THE DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR FINDING OUT THE REASON FOR DETENTION. TWO OF THE CORRESPONDENTS, LORENZO AND SILVIA CARRASCO, ARE MEXICAN CITIZENS. THE THIRD, JESUS MARQUEZ, IS A VENEZUELAN CITIZEN. BESIDES BEING IPS CORRESPONDENTS, ALL THREE ARE CORRESPONDENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CAUCUS OF LABOR COMMITTEES. THE MEXICAN AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA HAS BEEN INFORMED OF THE MATTER AND IS REPORTEDLY VERY UPSET.

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2. SCS ADVISES THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS RESPONSIBILITY

ONLY FOR AMERICAN CITIZENS, BUT OCCASIONALLY FOR POLITICAL
REASONS IT TAKES SOME ACTION WHEN FOREIGN NATIONALS ARE
INVOLVED. SCS BELIEVES THAT EMBASSY CARACAS SHOULD CALL
THE SHOTS AND DECIDE WHAT IF ANY ACTION WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.
WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ADVICE ON WHAT OUR RESPONSE TO
MR. HIRSCH SHOULD BE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JOURNALISTS, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE271891
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NC:JSSHOLES
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750400-0236
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751139/aaaabipr.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 NOV 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 NOV 2003 by chicheje>; APPROVED <23 JAN 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DETENTION OF IPS CORRESPONDENTS
TAGS: PINS, VE
To: CARACAS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006